

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 08211 172111Z
ACTION PA-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 PRS-01 DHA-02 L-03 H-01 SCS-03
SCA-01 /020 W
----- 049365 /71
R 171920Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8271

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FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BRAY FROM AMBASSADOR HILL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, AR
SUBJECT: PATTY ERB STATEMENT

REF: BRAY/ERB CONVERSATION

1. MR. ERB YESTERDAY (DECEMBER 16) GAVE EMBOFF COPY OF DECEMBER 1 LETTER TO HIM FROM MENNONITE MISSION BOARD SECRETARY LAWRENCE GREASER CONCERNING PATTY ERB'S DECISION ON RELEASING PUBLIC STATEMENT CONCERNING HER DETENTION IN ARGENTINA. ACCORDING TO GREASER, PATTY HAD PREPARED A WRITTEN RELEASE AND WOULD PREFER THAT IT CARRY HER NAME. SHE NOTED THAT SINCE THE NEWS RELEASE BY AISC (ARGENTINE INFORMATION SERVICE COMMITTEE) IDENTIFIED HER BY NAME, IT IS NOW POINTLESS FOR HER TO MAKE AN ANONYMOUS STATEMENT. (AISC IS THE NEW YORK CHAPTER OF THE SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE WITH THE ARGENTINE PEOPLE WHICH PUBLISHES OUTREACH; ADDRESS 339 LAFAYETTE, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10012. IT SENT PATTY COPY OF ITS NEWS RELEASE WHICH GREASER INCLUDED IN LETTER. GREASER SAID HE HAS NOT SEEN THE INFORMATION PUBLISHED IN LOCAL MEDIA, ALTHOUGH A STUDENT REPORTED SHE HAD SEEN A XEROS OF THE RELEASE ON A BULLETIN BOARD OF THE UNIVERSITY IN MADISON.)

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2. GREASER SAID THAT HE WAS SENDING PATTY'S PROPOSED STATEMENT FOR MR. ERB'S OPINION. MR. ERB SAID STATEMENT WAS NOT ENCLOSED IN LETTER AND THAT HE HAS NOT RECEIVED IT YET. GREASER ALSO SAID THAT DELTON FRANZ WAS CHECKING WITH AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL IN WASHINGTON AND CONGRESSMAN DRINAN, FRASER SUBCOMMITTEE STAFF, AND FRED RONDON. (APPARENTLY FRASER STAFF

IS CONSIDERING HAVING PATTY TESTIFY IF FUTURE HEARINGS ARE HELD.) GREASER OFFERS TO PAY ERB'S WAY SHOULD HE DECIDE TO COME TO U. S.

3. MR. ERB TOLD EMBOFF HE WOULD CALL GREASER FOR CLARIFICATION AND THEN ADVISE EMBOFFS. HE SAID HIS ONLY RESERVATION ON POSSIBILITY MENTIONED BY BRAY THAT AN OFFICIAL U. S. PROTEST TO GOA OVER PATTY'S TREATMENT (SHOULD SHE RELEASE USG OF PRIVACY ACT RESTRICTIONS) MIGHT BE MADE IN LIEU OF ATTRIBUTED STATEMENT WAS THAT PROTEST WOULD NOT COVER HER DESIRE TO GIVE NAMES OF DETAINEES. HOWEVER, LETTER MAKES NO MENTION THAT THAT POSSIBILITY IS BEING CONSIDERED NOR THAT PATTY IS CONSIDERING AUTHORIZING USG TO USE HER NAME.
HILL

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: blochd0
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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